

In the Claims:

1 (currently amended). A method for coating articles, in particular sanitary articles, such as sanitary fittings, having at least partly metallic surfaces, comprising the steps of:
providing metallic surfaces,
applying ~~at least one organosilane~~ an organosilane mixture comprising a modified fluoroalkylsilane and 1,2-bis(triethoxysilyl)ethane to the metallic surfaces by a sol-gel method thus obtaining a coating, and
converting the coating thus obtained into a polysiloxane coating.

2 (previously presented). The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the conversion of the coating into the polysiloxane coating is carried out by thermal treatment at temperatures of less than about 70° to 100°C.

3 (previously presented). The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polysiloxane coating has a thickness less than about 1 to 5 µm.

4 (cancelled).

5 (currently amended). The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~one of the organosilane and an~~ organosilane mixture is applied as a colloidal aqueous solution with a solids content.

6-9 (cancelled).

10 (previously presented). The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the metallic surfaces are provided on a plastics body.

11 (previously presented). The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the metallic surfaces are provided on a body comprising at least one of stainless steel, aluminum, die cast zinc and brass.

12 (previously presented). The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the metallic surfaces comprise at least one of nickel, palladium-nickel (PdNi), nickel-tungsten (NiW) and chromium.

13 (previously presented). The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the metallic surfaces comprise at least one of copper and a noble metal.

14 (previously presented). The method as claimed in claim 13, comprising applying a primer to the metallic surfaces before application of the organosilane.

15 (previously presented). The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the primer comprises a long-chain, ω -functionalized mercaptan.

16 (previously presented). The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the chain of the primer comprises at least one of methylene units and ethylene glycol units.

17 (previously presented). The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the primer comprises 11-mercapto-1-undecanol.

18 (withdrawn). An article produced by the method of claim 1.

19 (withdrawn). A sanitary article comprising:
a body comprising at least one of brass and plastic,
at least one metal coat on the body, and
a polysiloxane coating on the metal coat.

20 (withdrawn). The article of claim 19, further comprising:
a coat comprising at least one of silver and gold on the metal coat,
a primer coat on the coat comprising at least one of silver and gold, preferably
comprising a long-chain, ω -functionalized mercaptan, and
a polysiloxane coating present on the primer coat.

21 (withdrawn). The article of claim 19, comprising:
a plastics body,

a nickel coat on the plastics body, and
a polysiloxane coating on the nickel coat.

22 (withdrawn). The article of claim 19, comprising:
a brass body,
a nickel coat on the brass body, and
a polysiloxane coating on the nickel coat.

23 (withdrawn). The article of claim 19, comprising:
a plastics body,
a nickel coat on the plastics body,
a silver coat on the nickel coat,
a primer coat on the silver coat, and
a polysiloxane coating on the primer coat.

24 (withdrawn). The article of claim 19, comprising:
a brass body,
a nickel coat on the brass body,
a silver coat on the nickel coat,
a primer coat on the silver coat, and
a polysiloxane coating on the primer coat.

25 (withdrawn). The article of claim 19, wherein the polysiloxane coating has a coat thickness of less than about 1 to 5 μm .

26 (withdrawn). A composition for coating sanitary articles, comprising an organosilane mixture including at least one fluoroalkyl-silane, and a (poly)alkoxysilylalkane.

27 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, further comprising at least one pretreatment step for activating the metallic surfaces prior to application of the organosilane to the metallic surfaces.

28 (previously presented). The method of claim 5, wherein the solids content is about 1% to 30% by weight.

29 (cancelled).

30 (previously presented). The method of claim 9, wherein the fluoroalkylsilane comprises one of 1H,1H,2H,2H-perfluorooctyltriethoxysilane and 1H,1H,2H,2H-perfluorodecyltriethoxysilane.

31 (cancelled).

32 (previously presented). The method of claim 10, wherein the plastics body comprises ABS.

33 (withdrawn). The article of claim 19, wherein the metal coat comprises at least one of nickel, palladium-nickel (PdNi), nickel-tungsten (NiW), and chromium.

34 (withdrawn). The article of claim 20, wherein the primer coat on the coat comprising at least one of silver and gold, comprises a long-chain, ω -functionalized mercaptan.

35 (withdrawn). The article of claim 23, wherein the primer coat comprises a long-chain, ω -functionalized mercaptan.

36 (withdrawn). The composition of claim 26, wherein the fluoroalkyl-silane comprises one of 1H, 1H, 2H, 2H-perfluorooctyltriethoxysilane and 1H,1H,2H,2H-perfluorodecyltriethoxysilane.

37 (withdrawn). The composition of claim 26, wherein the (poly)alkoxysilylalkane comprises 1,2-bis(triethoxysilyl)ethane.